



PATENT  
CASE NAME/NO.: BOOKBINDER 16-6-1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Bookbinder et al.

Serial No: 09/447,077

Filing Date: November 22, 1999

Title: METHODS FOR PROTECTING  
SILICA-CONTAINING  
ARTICLE AND INHIBITING  
BREAKS DURING DRAWING  
OF OPTICAL FIBER, AND  
SILICA-CONTAINING  
ARTICLE PROTECTED  
AGAINST BREAK-INDUCING  
PARTICULATES

Art Group Unit: 1772

Examiner: TBA

RESPONSE

*Handwritten signature/initials*

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

RECEIVED  
DEC 31 2001  
TC 1700

**RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

In the Office Action dated October 2, 2001, designated as Paper No. 4 in the above-captioned application, the Examiner issued a Restriction Requirement identifying the following groups of claims as being drawn to potentially distinct inventions:

- Group I. Claims 1 - 33, drawn to a method, classified in class 427, subclass 163;
- Group II. Claims 34 - 49, drawn to a product, classified in class 350, subclass 96.34.

The Examiner asserted that these inventions may be regarded as independent and distinct from one another because the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process such as the step of removing the protective layer after subsequent processing of the intermediate product.

The undersigned attorney of record has made a provisional election to Group I, claims 1-33, without traverse.

Applicants believe that a one (1) month extension of time is necessary to make this Response timely. Should Applicants be in error, Applicants respectfully request the Office grant such time extension pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) as necessary to make this Response timely, and hereby authorizes the Office to charge any necessary fee or surcharge

RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Appn. No. 09/447,077

Filed November 24, 1998

with respect to said time extension to the deposit account of the undersigned firm of attorneys, Deposit Account 03-3325.

Please direct any questions or comments to Randall S. Wayland at (607) 974-0463

Respectfully submitted,

CORNING INCORPORATED

*Randall S. Wayland*

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Date: 11/16/01

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R.**

**§ 1.8:** I hereby certify that this paper and any papers referred to herein are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service, as first class mail, postage prepaid, addressed to Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on 11/16/01

*Randall S. Wayland*  
Randall S. Wayland